

# LIFE SIMILES.

[By P. B. West]

As cascade echoing streamlet's flow,  
Or silent river dark-and-deep,  
As ocean's thermal currents—slow  
That through their briny channels creep,  
And mingle with the swelling sea  
Life like with exhalations free.

How like the zephyrs floating past,  
Or grateful summer evening breeze,  
Like sober autumn's chilling blast  
That dirge like sighs through leafless trees,  
Through nature's imagery we trace  
Life scenes of earth our dwelling place.

Perchance life like the rivulet  
Its onward sparkling course will take  
Until by wave-like echoes met  
From placid clear expansive lake,  
And with it mingle and explore  
Its mirror'd depths and shining shore.

Again has life its halcyon days,  
As stars, that burn with borrow'd light  
Of ruling sun, with lesser rays  
These faithful sentinels of night  
Arise, with changeless radiance glow  
While darkness shrouds the world below.

Life's morning blushes as the dawn,  
Wastes its effulgence fades away,  
How soon alas, are fled and gone  
Earth's votaries, say where are they?  
A voice comes from the swelling sea  
Of life—in vast eternity.

Then echo from the shining shore  
Of placid lake and ocean wave,  
To echo answers—evermore  
To peaceful shores bright waters lave,  
Hail welcome bark—hail welcome guest  
To haven where the weary rest.

The haven gained, from dangers past  
Now freed, and free from earthly care,  
Where hope is as the anchor cast,  
Life's currents smooth and tranquil are,  
List waiting mortals, doubt no more,  
But view thro' faith, life's peaceful shore.